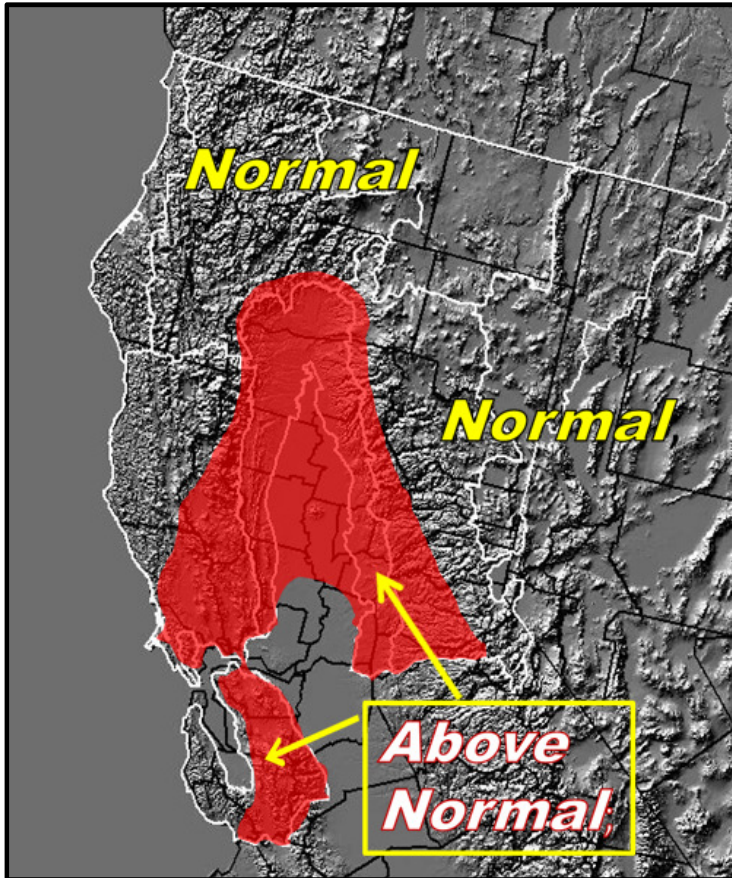


SEASONAL OUTLOOK

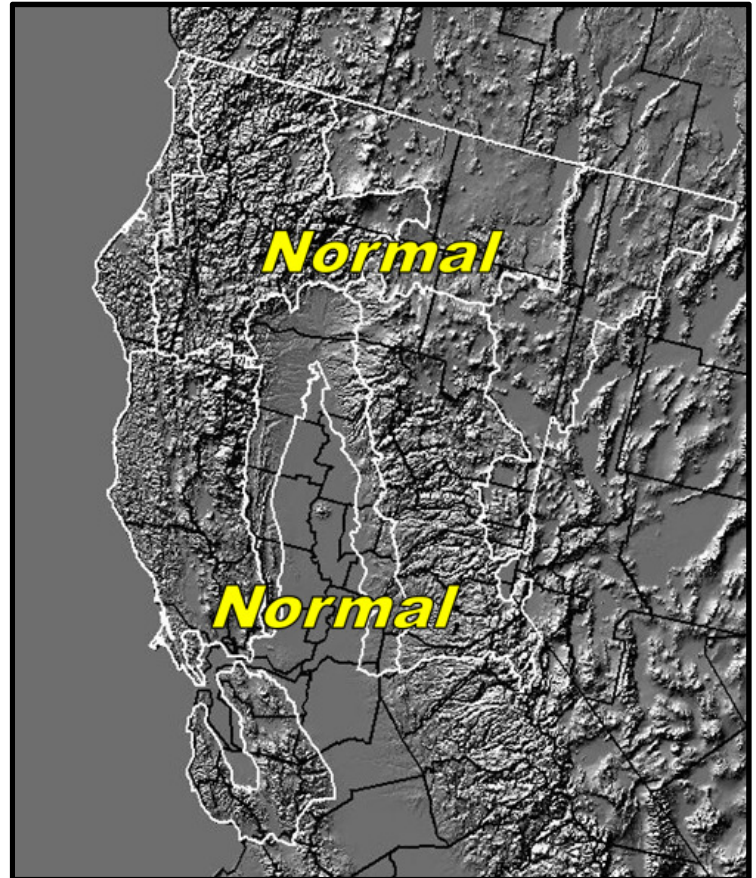
For Northern California and Hawaii

Issued September 1st 2013

Valid for October and Nov-Dec 2013



October 2013



November-December 2013

Weather and Fuel/Fire Potential

There are indications in the longer range weather guidance that for a good portion of October there may be a moderate or strong larger-scale high pressure ridge to the west of Northern CA (see **Figures 5 and 6**). In that scenario, individual weather systems track from NW to SE across WA and/or OR and into the Great Basin. This leads to surface high pressure in the cool post-frontal air over the Pacific NW, which contrasts with the warmer air and lower surface pressures of the (relative) thermal trough over CA. The result is tightening pressure gradients that cause moderate to strong NNE to East winds develop over much of northern CA. It is across the lower terrain from the Sacramento Valley and SSW through the SF Bay Area that this mild to warm, drying type (foehn) wind is most typically an issue, because these areas see the greatest drying effects on their fuels. In conjunction with the existing low to critically dry live fuel moistures in much of this region after a warm September, we forecast an area of **Above Normal** large fire potential region on the October map above.

Figures 1 and 2 show that mid to late August coolness and wet convective activity temporarily sent average NOPS ERCs downward and 1000-hr FMs slightly upward. The forecast warmth and dryness of September could easily lead to drier-than-average northern CA fuel conditions around the start of October. **Figures 3 and 4** coarsely depict Oct-Dec temperature and precipitation expectations. The NOPS Area is expected to see October temperatures near to slightly above normal, and precipitation near to a little below normal. A return to cooler, wetter weather is normal for November, and it is the most likely scenario this year too, though just how much wetter is far from certain this year. December will likely get even wetter, leading to **Normal** (i.e. very little) large fire potential across northern CA during the final two months of 2013.

Seasonal Outlook (continued)

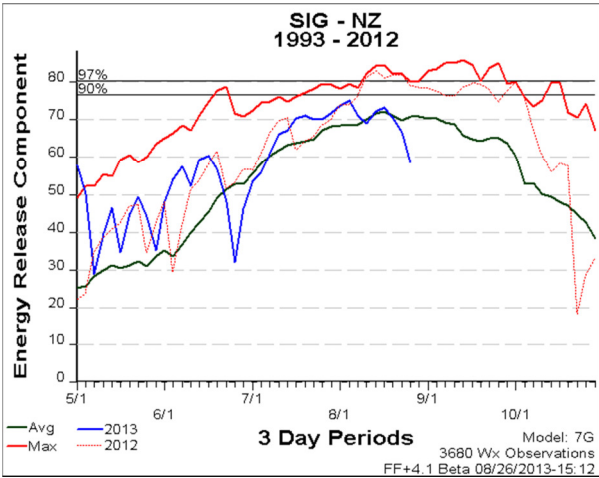


Fig 1: Average Nrn CA ERC's in late August

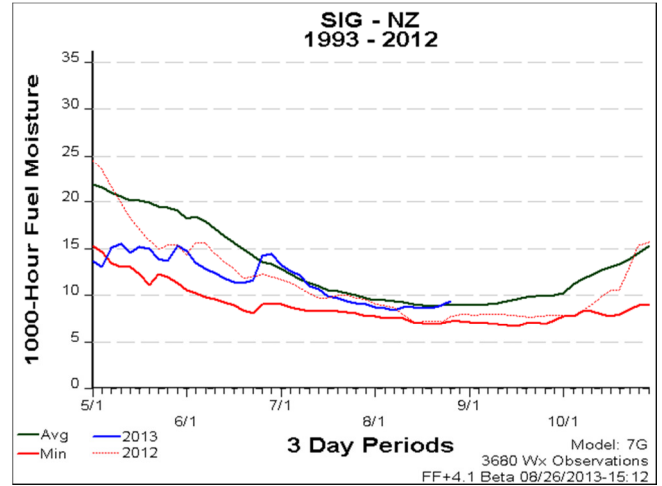


Fig 2: Average Nrn CA 1000-hr FM's late

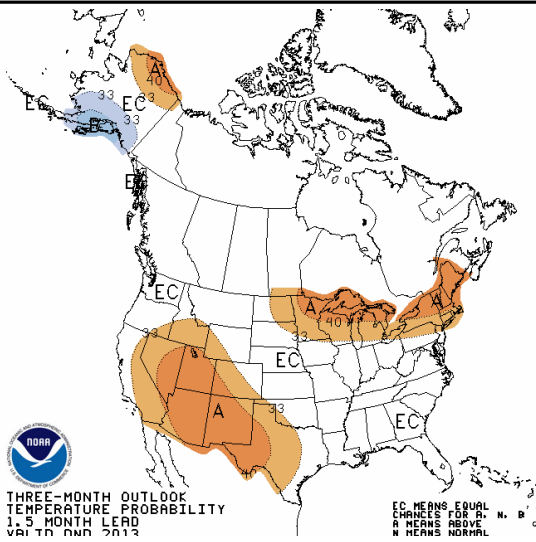


Fig 3- October-December '13 Temperatures

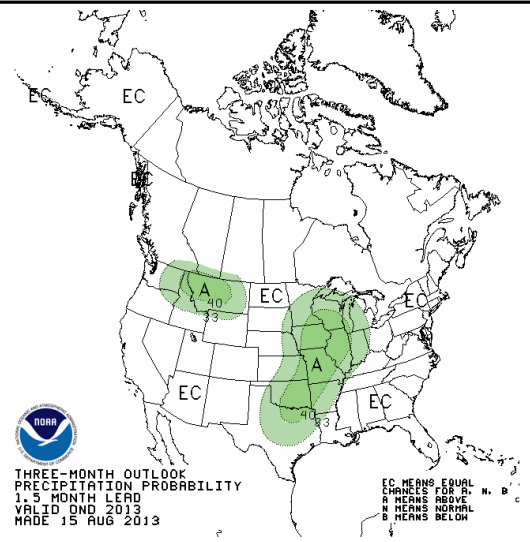


Fig 4: October-December '13 Precipitation

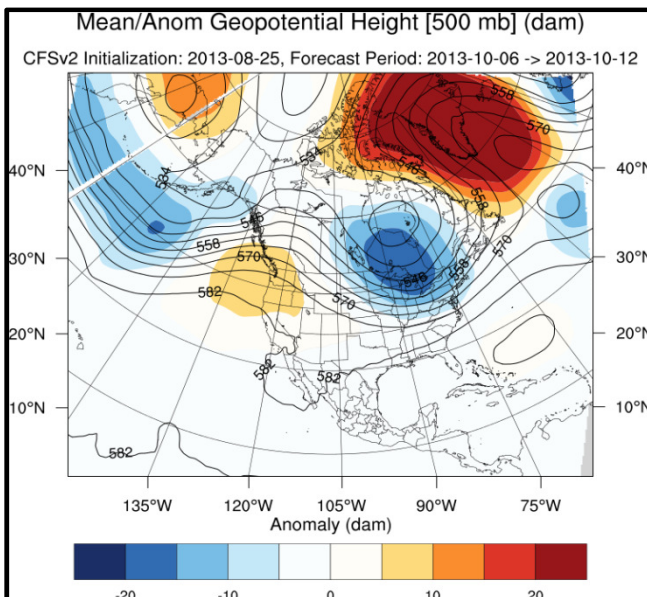


Fig 5: October 6-12 forecast upper pattern

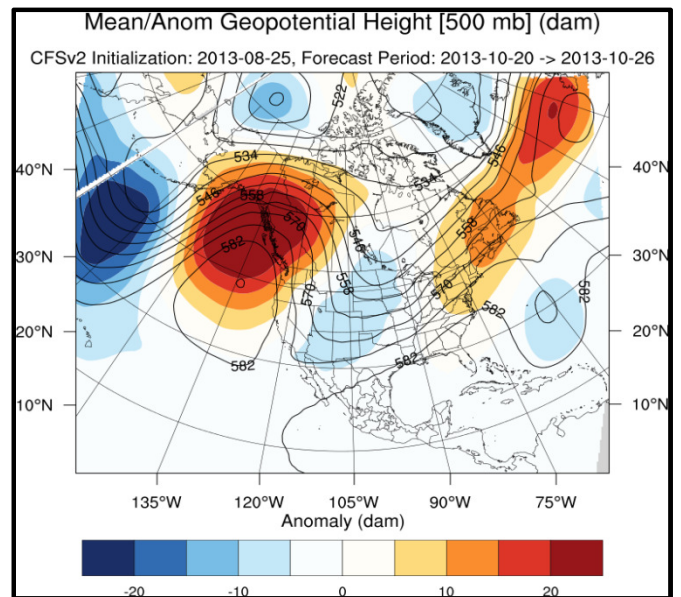
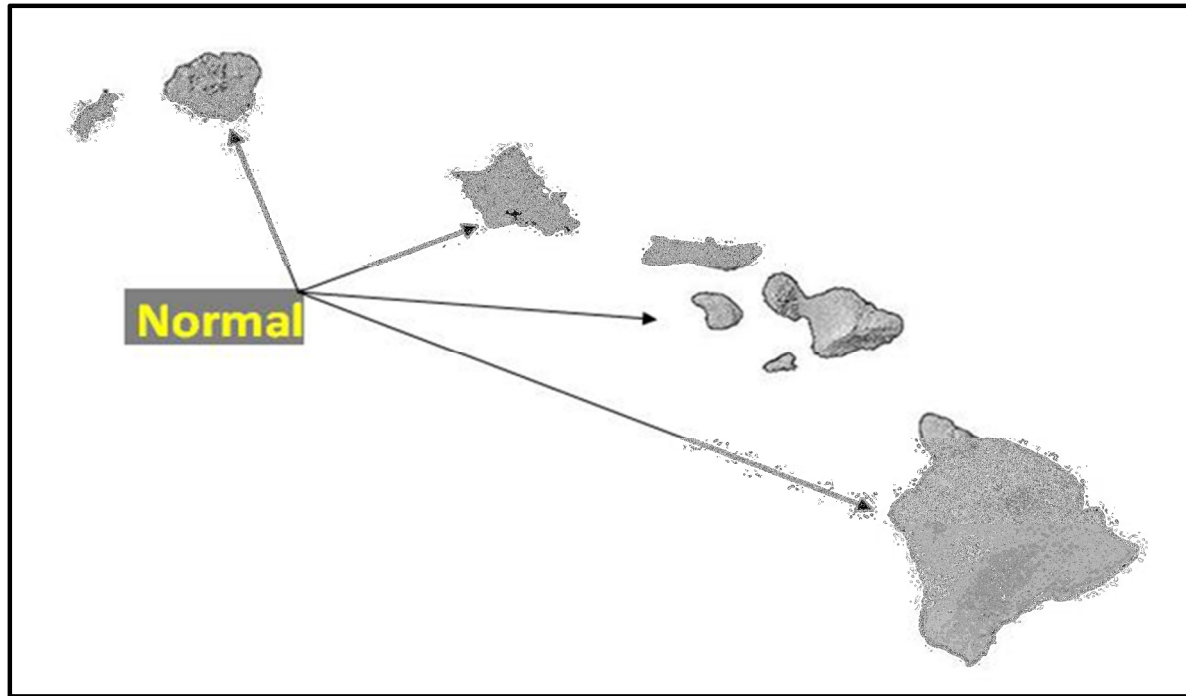


Fig 6: October 20-26 forecast upper pattern

Hawaii Seasonal Outlook: Oct - Dec 2013



October - December 2013 Outlook

HAWAII SEASONAL FORECAST DISCUSSION, FOR OCT - DEC 2013 (Note - this information comes from NOAA's CPC at <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/90day/fxhw40.html>): REFER TO THE 90 DAY DISCUSSION FOR FORECASTS OF EQUATORIAL PACIFIC [SST](#) AND DETAILS OF THE GENERAL BACKGROUND TO THE FORECAST. [ENSO](#)-NEUTRAL CONDITIONS ARE PRESENT ACROSS THE EQUATORIAL PACIFIC. EQUATORIAL SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURES ARE NEAR AVERAGE ACROSS THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC OCEAN AND BELOW AVERAGE ACROSS THE EASTERN PACIFIC. NEGATIVE SUBSURFACE TEMPERATURE [ANOMALIES](#) PERSISTED IN THE FAR EASTERN PACIFIC - WHILE POSITIVE [ANOMALIES](#) PERSISTED IN THE EAST-CENTRAL AND EASTERN PACIFIC. THE LOW-LEVEL WINDS REMAINED NEAR AVERAGE - WHILE WEAK UPPER-LEVEL WESTERLY [ANOMALIES](#) PERSISTED IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC. [CONVECTION](#) REMAINED ENHANCED OVER INDONESIA AND SUPPRESSED IN THE CENTRAL PART OF THE BASIN. MOST MODEL FORECASTS FAVOR THE CONTINUATION OF [ENSO](#)-NEUTRAL CONDITIONS. **OVERALL [ENSO](#)-NEUTRAL IS FAVORED THROUGH NORTHERN HEMISPHERE FALL 2013.**

BELOW MEDIAN PRECIPITATION AMOUNTS ARE FAVORED FOR HAWAII FROM OCT THRU DEC 2013, ACCORDING TO A MAJORITY OF CLIMATE MODELS. THE NMME MODEL GIVES NO INDICATION OF EITHER ABOVE OR BELOW NORMAL TEMPERATURES FOR HAWAII.



This Product was developed by the Predictive Services group, located at the North Zone Coordination Center in Redding, California

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